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Claims

1-19 (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring a pressure in a region which is closed off by a solenoid valve, having the following steps of:

- applying a voltage to the solenoid valve,
- determining a peak point of the current flowing on account of the voltage representing a switching current at which the valve switches to an open position,
- determining the pressure based on the determination of the peak point , and
- generating output information representative of the pressure,

wherein the pressure is determined by means of a family of characteristic curves.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 20,

further including the steps of measuring the peak value of the current at the peak point, and

determining the pressure on the basis of the peak value.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim [[20]] 24,

wherein the pressure is determined by calculation.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring a pressure in a region which is closed off by a solenoid valve, having the following steps of:

- applying a voltage to the solenoid valve,
- determining a peak point of the current flowing on account of the voltage representing a switching current at which the valve switches to an open position,
- determining the pressure based on the determination of the peak point , and
- generating output information representative of the pressure.,

wherein the voltage is increased step by step by increasing a pulse width modulation ratio step by step, and wherein the pressure is determined on the basis of the

pulse width modulation ratio at the peak point.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 24,
wherein the peak value of the current is determined from the pulse width modulation ratio at the peak point and a coil resistance of the solenoid valve, and wherein the pressure in determined on the basis of the peak value.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 25,
wherein a temperature dependence of the coil resistance of the solenoid valve is taken into account for determining the pressure on the basis of the peak value of the current.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 24,
wherein the pulse width modulation ratio at the peak point is referred to a standard voltage.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 27,
wherein the solenoid valve is calibrated by means of the standard voltage.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 20,
wherein the region is a working volume of a gas spring.

30. (Currently Amended) A device for determining a pressure in a region which is closed off by a solenoid valve (106; 406), having a control unit (110; 410) for applying a voltage to the solenoid valve,
wherein the control unit is capable of determining a peak point (S) of the current (I) flowing on account of the voltage by increasing step by step a pulse width modulation ratio of the voltage applied to the solenoid valve and of determining the pressure on the basis of the pulse width modulation ratio at the peak point

31. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 30,

wherein the control unit is further capable of (114; 420, 424) determining the peak value (I_switching) of the current at the peak point (S) and to determine the pressure on the basis of the peak value.

32. (Canceled)